

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

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R 010112 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T STATE 101892

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BEIRUT USCINCEUR MAY 25, 1973, FROM
SECSTATE REPEATED OR YOU:

QUOTE

STATE 101892

EXDIS

E. O. 11652 - XGDS

TAGS: MASS, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: BEIRUT 5968

JOINT STATE/ DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. YOU MAY INFORM GOL THAT WE ARE GIVING URGENT CONSIDERA-
TION TO THEIR MILITARY EQUIPMENT LIST WHICH CONTAINED IN
REFTEL. WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO IDENTIFY ITEMS WHICH
COULD BE SUPPLIED ON AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT BASIS. BEFORE
WE CAN COMPLETE OUR EXAMINATION OF THE LIST AND COMMENT
FULLY ON THE EQUIPMENT REQUESTED WE NEED TO CLARIFY

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SEVERAL QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE COURSE OF OUR INITIAL REVIEW. QUERIES AND COMMENTS ARE MADE TO ITEM NUMBERS APPEARING IN PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF REFTEL.

2. ITEM 1- A. WE WILL PROVIDE REVISED COST AND AVAILABILITY DATA TO GOL ON MGOAI TANKS. HOWEVER, LEAD-TIME FOR M-60- A1 TANKS IS APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS. FYI - COMPRESSION WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT IN VIEW OF RECENT DIVERSIONS ON BEHALF OF JORDAN AND KUWAIT. END FYI. LEBANON MAY WANT TO CONSIDER MODIFIED VERSIONS OF THE M-48, AT A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION IN PRICE AND POSSIBLY AT REDUCED LEADTIME. GOL ALREADY HAS COST AND AVAILABILITY DATA ON M-48 MODELS.

3. ITEM 2- BBM REGARDING A-4 AIRCRAFT, IS LEBANON THINKING IN TERMS OF TRANSITIONING MIRAGE PILOTS FOR A-4' S?

4. ITEM 2- C. THE UH-1 N HELICOPTER IS CONFIGURED FOR OVER- WATER OPERATIONS. THESE HELICOPTERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE; FURTHERMORE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE LEBANESE HAVE SUCH A REQUIREMENT FOR OVER- WATER OPERATIONS AND STRONGLY RECOMMEND THE CHEAPER UH-1 H AS BEING MORE APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR NEEDS.

5. ITEM 2- E. DO THE LEBANESE WANT THE CENTRAL OFFICE AN/ TCC-7 OR DO THEY HAVE IN MIND THE CONSIDERABLY LESS EXPENSIVE M- TC-7?

6. ITEM 2- F. WE NEED TO KNOW THE LENGTH TO BE SPAND AND THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT TO BE CARRIED BY THE BAILEY BRIDGE.

7. ANOTHER AREA OF INTEREST INVOLVES LEBANESE GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO DEFRAID THE COSTS OF ANY MATERIAL WHICH MAY BE SUPPLIED. COULD LEBANESE APPROPRIATE FUNDS DIRECTLY FROM THE UNOBLIGATED BALANCE OF FUNDS AUTHORIZED FOR MILITARY EXPENDITURES IN 1972? FYI - WE HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN PRINCIPLE AND BY LONG- ESTABLISHED PRECEDENT WITH PROVISION OF MATERIAL ON LOAN. ALSO, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO EXTEND
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GRANT- AID MATERIAL TO LEBANON IN VIEW OF CURRENT WORLD- WIDE COMMITMENTS OF LIMITED MAP FUNDS. IT APPEARS THAT 3.5 MILLION DOLLARS OF UNUSUED CREDIT FROM THE FY 72 PACKAGE AND ALL TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE FY 73 PACKAGE ARE STILL AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, WE ARE SEEKING TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT AMOUNTS OF FMS CREDIT AVAILABLE. IT SEEMS CERTAIN THAT LEBANON WILL HAVE TO SHARE A

PORTION OF THE COSTS OF WHATEVER EQUIPMENT MAY BE
PROVIDED. END FYI. RUSH

UNQUOTE. RUSH

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